

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 OFA-01 DLOS-04

ACDA-05 TRSE-00 /096 W

----- 088752

R 081136Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7184

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, CB, CH

SUBJ: THAI-CAMBODIAN RELATIONS THROUGH A CHINESE FILTER

1. AS PART OF COVERAGE OF PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT'S VISIT TO THE PRC, BANGKOK POST CARRIED A FRONT PAGE STORY JULY 3 THAT PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI REPORTEDLY TOLD KHUKRIT THAT PRINCE SIHANOUK WANTS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THAILAND, THAT PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES COULD BE PEACEFULLY RESOLVED IF THERE WERE DIPLOMATIC TIES.

2. POST EDITORIALIZED THE SAME DAY THAT IF THIS REPORT IS TRUE, THE MOVE SHOULD BE WELCOMED. NOTING THAT SEVERAL LIVES HAVE BEEN LOST DURING BORDER INCIDENTS, IT SAID RADIO PHNOM PENH HAS ANNOUNCED CAMBODIA'S DESIRE FOR FRIENDLY RELATIONS WHILE ACTIONS OF CAMBODIAN FORCES HAVE BEEN CAUSING TENSIONS. (THE PAPER REPORTED ON JULY 8 THE LATEST INCIDENT OCCURED JULY 2 THREE KILOMETERS NORTH OF THE BORDER

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BELOW BURIRAM, DURING WHICH THE THAI BORDER PATROL RETOOK A BRIDGE THE CAMBODIANS HAVE OCCUPIED SINCE

LAST MONTH.) IN ADDITION, THERE HAVE BEEN PROBLEMS  
IN THE GULF OF SIAM OVER FISHERIES AND THE DEMARCATION  
OF CONTINENTAL SHELF LIMITS. THE EDITORIAL  
CONCLUDED THAT RELATIONS WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO BOTH  
SIDES.

3. A SEPARATE PEKING DISPATCH JULY 3 REPORTED THAT  
CHINESE LEADERS TOLD THE THAI DELEGATION THEY BELIEVE  
SIHANOUK WILL RETURN TO PHNOM PENH AS LEADER OF THE  
GOVERNMENT.

4. RADIO PHNOM PENH NOTED JULY 6 THAT RELATIONS  
ARE IMPROVING BETWEEN THAILAND AND CAMBODIA AND OFFERED  
ITS CONGRATULATIONS OVER THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF RELATIONS  
BETWEEN THE PRC AND THAILAND. THE POST EDITORIAL  
COMMENTED THAT IT IS POSSIBLE PEKING COULD HELP GET  
THAI-CAMBODIAN RELATIONS BACK ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

5. COMMENT. THILE THE THAIS HOPE FOR IMPROVED  
RELATIONS, WE CAN ONLY WONDER WHETHER THE CAMBODIAN  
LEADERSHIP WANTS TO RELATE TO ANYONE AS IT CONTINUES  
TO CONSOLIDATE ITS POWER.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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